

PM hails UMMC for successful liver transplant on infant

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has congratulated the medical team at the Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC) for the historic success of a liver transplant on a four-month-old baby boy last November.

The baby, who weighed just 6.2kg, suffered from liver failure and urgently required a transplant from his mother on Nov 25.

In a post on X yesterday, Anwar said the achievement reflects the high level of expertise, professionalism and dedication of Malaysia's healthcare personnel, particularly in performing highly complex and high-risk medical procedures.

Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said the baby's heart suddenly stopped just minutes before the surgery began, creating a tense moment at the paediatric ICU.

"The medical team worked tirelessly to perform resuscitation. One hour filled with tension. The life of this little child was truly hanging by a thread.

"This is where the true greatness of our medical team was tested. Not only did they manage to stabilise the baby but with sharp and courageous clinical judgement, also made the difficult decision to proceed with the surgery Dzulkefly said in a post on his Facebook page.

He said despite the high-risk nature of the operation, complicated by the baby's extremely delicate blood vessels, the surgery was successfully carried out, thanks to the combined expertise of surgeons, anaesthetists and nurses at UMMC.

Dzulkefly said the case proves that Malaysia possesses world-class medical expertise.

"We have the talent to create miracles. What we need now is a support system and public awareness for people to (sign up) as donors."

He also reiterated his commitment to the National Organ Transplant Agenda 2026.

- Bernama